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LEAGUE OF RED CROSS SOCIETIES COLLECTION

League of Red Cross Societies

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The League of Red Cross Societies is an international organization comprising the National Societies of the following countries: ALBANIA, ARGENTINA, AUSTRALIA, AUSTRIA, BELGIUM, BOLIVIA, BRAZIL, BULGARIA, CANADA, CHILI, CHINA, COLOMBIA, COSTA RICA, CUBA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, DANZIG, DENMARK, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, ECUADOR, EGYPT, ESTONIA, FINLAND, FRANCE, GERMANY, GREAT BRITAIN, GREECE, GUATEMALA, HUNGARY, ICELAND, INDIA, IRAQ, ITALY, JAPAN, LATVIA, LITHUANIA, LUXEMBURG, MEXICO, NETHERLANDS, NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES, NEW ZEALAND, NORWAY, PANAMA, PARAGUAY, PERSIA, PERU, POLAND, PORTUGAL, ROUMANIA, SALVADOR, SIAM, SOUTH AFRICA, SPAIN, SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND, TURKEY, UNITED STATES, URUGUAY, VENEZUELA, YUGOSLAVIA.

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THE RED CROSS IN PICTURES
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The Polish Floods.

Additional details are now available concerning the steps taken by the Polish Red Cross to deal with the situation arising out of the floods caused by the overflow of the Upper Vistula and its tributaries, a brief account of which was given in the September issue of the BULLETIN (p. 167).

The disaster was worst in the palatinates of Cracow, Kielce, Lublin, Lwow and Warsaw.

From the very outset, the regional and local committees of the Polish Red Cross were on the spot ministering to the health and material needs of the inhabitants. The Cracow committee was particularly active, more than 10,000 persons having been helped with food and medical care in its five relief stations, in addition to the 700 cared for at the permanent Red Cross hospital. The same committee also set up a small field hospital in the flooded region and a shelter for 50 children.

A ''Clothes Drive'' was organized, and yielded 10,000 items of clothing and footwear, which were distributed to the neediest of the flood victims.

The Red Cross food station at Tarnow served 3,700 meals during the seven days it was kept open, while a disinfection detachment worked hard on the banks of the Dunajec cleaning out wells, organizing baths for the inhabitants, and disinfecting clothing. Over 1,300 persons benefited by these different arrangements, and many of them were vaccinated against infectious diseases.

The Kielce committee arranged for the feeding of 4,000 persons. Several committees organized mobile health detachments to provide medical care and medicaments for the stricken population.

The immediate food question having been solved by the combined efforts of the Red Cross and the regional Relief Committees, the most urgent problem now confronting the health authorities is to prevent the outbreak of epidemics following on the contamination of water and air by the decomposed carcases of animals drowned in the floods. The Red Cross is taking a large share in this work through its health detachments, which are cleaning out the flooded houses and wells, disinfecting garments and household linen, vaccinating the inhabitants, distributing soap, and helping to bury dead cattle.

A grave situation has arisen as a result of the destruction of the harvest and the enormous losses in cattle. Desperate efforts are being made to clear the ground in time for planting the spring crops. Meanwhile, the peasants must be fed, and the Government estimates that some 20 millions of zlotys will be necessary for this purpose. The sheltering of the tens of thousands of homeless victims of the disaster during the winter months has been arranged for more or less satisfactorily.

Although no appeal was made for outside assistance, the Polish Red Cross has received a spontaneous gift from the American Red Cross of $5,000 as a contribution towards the relief of the flood sufferers.

Message to Tokyo Conference.

At its plenary session on May 17th last, the Liaison Committee of Major International Organizations passed the following resolution:

The Liaison Committee of Major International Organizations addresses to the XVth International Red Cross Conference the expression of its interest and goodwill. The Liaison Committee, which is especially concerned with the education of the young in a spirit of peace, has been able to measure the importance of the work done in this field by the Junior Red Cross, not only by such means as international school correspondence, but especially through the spirit of goodwill, service, and co-operation which it arouses in the young. The Committee congratulates the Red Cross on having been able to bring together millions of boys and girls throughout the world in activities so eminently favourable to the growth of a better international understanding, under the emblem of racial, political and religious neutrality.

A Red Cross Society in Nicaragua.

By circular dated September 15th, 1934, the International Red Cross Committee notified the Red Cross world of its recognition of the new Nicaraguan Red Cross Society.

This development has been long expected, but it was not until January 10th, 1934, that the President of the Nicaraguan Republic published the decree authorizing the official constitution of a Red Cross Society in Nicaragua.

The headquarters of the new Society are in Managua, and the central committee has been constituted as follows:

PRESIDENT: Dr. Rodolfo Espinosa.
VICE-PRESIDENT: Dr. Roberto González.
SECRETARY: Dr. Leon De Bayle.
COMPTROLLER: General Don Alejandro Cárdenas.
TREASURER: Don José Benito Rámirez.
MEMBER: Don Mauricio Marragou.

The League Secretariat has been informed that Dr. Espinosa has sailed for Japan, where he will represent his Society at the XVth International Red Cross Conference.

Death of Mr. G. Bals.

At the time of going to press, we learn the sad news of the death of Mr. G. Bals, President of the Roumanian Red Cross and member of the Board of Governors of the League. His loss is a terrible blow to the Society whose destinies he has directed for so many years, and will be keenly felt by his colleagues on the Board of Governors.

In the next issue of the BULLETIN, a brief account of Mr. Bals' life and work will be given.

Delegations to Tokyo.

The Indian Red Cross delegation to the XVth International Conference has been constituted as follows: Miss Norah Hill, Executive Secretary; Dr. Alice Pennell; Mr. Ram Krishna Jaitly; Mrs. Cuthbert King; Chaudhri Bashir Ahmed Khan; Dr. Dhanjibhai H. Mehta; Mr. Burjor P. Mehta.

Miss Hill will also represent the Indian Red Cross at the XIVth session of the Board of Governors of the League of Red Cross Societies.

AIR AMBULANCE SERVICES IN U. S. S. R.

SINCE the beginning of 1933, the Executive Committee of the Alliance of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies has been devoting more and more attention to the problem of emergency medical aid. The vast expanses of the U. S. S. R. lent themselves admirably to the creation of an air ambulance service, and in a short time sufficient funds had been raised to provide a squadron of air ambulances, the administration of which was entrusted by the Government to the Executive Council of the Alliance.

That first squadron has now grown into a large fleet of aeroplanes grouped in regional air ambulance detachments and serving the whole of the Union. This service is aided by the right accorded to it to make free use of aerodromes, hangars, workshops, etc., belonging to the civil air fleet and to the Ossoaviakhim organization.

The Red Cross air ambulances are grouped in three main categories:

1. Small planes accommodating one lying down patient, a doctor and the pilot. Average speed: 75 miles an hour. Radius: 250 miles. A sturdy machine, demanding a minimum of upkeep and of garage space.

2. Amphibious planes for use in regions where lakes are many and aerodromes few.

3. Large planes for four lying down and three seated patients, a doctor, pilot and mechanic. This type usually has several motors, a large radius and an average speed of 105 miles an hour. The cabin is equipped with stretchers, surgical instruments, oxygen apparatus, etc., Dressings can be applied or blood transfusions effected while the machine is in flight.

In addition to the foregoing there is a medium-sized plane capable of doing 125 miles an hour and of covering a distance of 750 miles at one stretch.

The pilots of Red Cross air ambulances are chosen not only for their technical qualifications but for their moral qualities. As a general rule, a total of four to five hundred hours' faultless flying is a necessary condition for the appointment of pilots of this category.

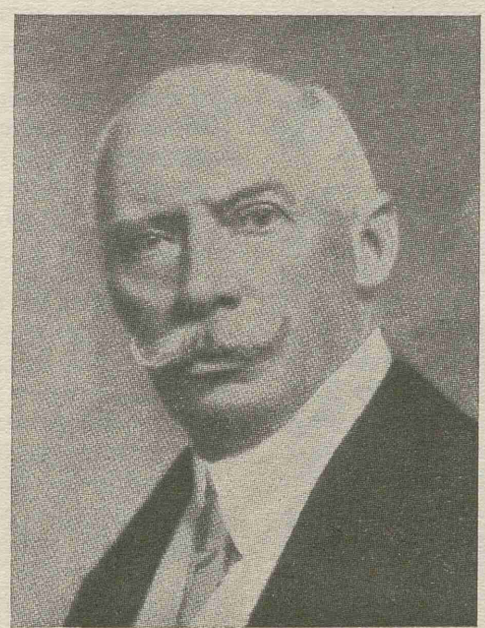
The special training of air ambulance pilots and mechanics is supplemented by courses in medical first aid, the syllabus of which is analogous to that of the Red Cross nursing courses.

The arrival of an air ambulance in a town or village is always something of an event. The inhabitants turn out by hundreds to watch, and, if the plane remains any time, organized bands of school-children visit the aerodrome and listen attentively to the explanations of the pilot on the technique of air ambulance services and the efforts of the Alliance of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in that field.

THE 80-YEAR OLD PRESIDENT OF THE AUSTRIAN RED CROSS

ON September 6th last, His Excellency Herr Max Vladimir von Beck, President of the Austrian Red Cross, celebrated his eightieth birthday.

Herr von Beck's career has been brilliant and, above all, eminently useful. The major part of his life has been spent in the service of his country. Although it is not unusual to find a statesman at the head of a Red Cross Society, the spectacle of a Prime Minister steering the ship of state with one hand while, with the other, he takes an active part in directing the destinies of the national Red Cross is surely without parallel. Yet that is what happened in Austria some twenty years ago, when Herr von Beck assumed, at one and the same time, the functions of Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Vice-President of the Austrian Red Cross. It says much for his skill as a pilot that he acquitted himself of this dual task with consummate ease and distinction, even during the difficult days of the Great War.



Max Vladimir von BECK
President of the Austrian Red Cross

When, at the end of 1919, it became necessary to reconstitute the Austrian Red Cross on a new basis to bring it into line with the changed conditions of the country, it was to Herr von Beck that this delicate mission was entrusted, in the capacity of President. Since that time, he has never relaxed his efforts to maintain the Austrian Society in a position to fulfil its national and international obligations. His task has not always been an easy one, as all who have followed the history of Austria since the War will realize. During these long, lean years of uphill work, Herr von Beck has been sustained by the loyalty and devotion of his colleagues in the Red Cross, for whom he has become an object of veneration.

ARGENTINA

The Sampacho Disaster

An earthquake recently destroyed the town of Sampacho (Province of Cordoba), reducing ninety per cent. of the houses to ruins and rendering the others unsafe for occupation. The Cordoba committee of the Argentine Red Cross promptly mobilized its relief forces and proceeded to minister to the needs of the inhabitants, who had fled from the stricken town in panic. Several members of the committee flew to the scene of the catastrophe by aeroplane to survey the extent of the damage and gauge the needs of the victims. Meanwhile, the Samaritans organized collections throughout the province with a view to procuring garments and provisions for the earthquake sufferers.

The Central Committee of the Red Cross at Buenos Ayres launched an appeal, and got into touch with the authorities with a view to sending relief to Sampacho and a certain number of trucks to serve as temporary shelters for the homeless. The appeal was heard and generous supplies of food, clothing and other objects of first necessity were despatched to Sampacho, where they were distributed by the Cordoba committee.

CANADA

Red Cross Help for Quintuplets

A Canadian farmer's wife, having achieved the remarkable feat of bringing five baby girls into the world at one confinement, suddenly found herself the object of the nation's solicitude. The greatest specialists in Canada visited her humble homestead, and the Government appointed four guardians to watch over the well-being of her infant daughters.

While the birth of quintuplets is not absolutely unique in itself, the interest of Mrs. Dionne's case resides in the fact that never before, in the history of medical science, have all five infants survived more than a few hours. Despite the fact that the babies were born two months before term, they were still alive five months later and the mother had completely recovered from her ordeal.

As soon as news of the event reached Toronto, the Canadian Red Cross despatched three of its best qualified nurses to assist the local doctor in his battle for the infants' lives. With victory, it became necessary to think of the children's future. The Red Cross again stepped into the breach by opening a public subscription wherewith to build a model nursery for the Dionne babies. So enthusiastic was the response that, by the end of August, it was possible to lay the foundation stone. The nursery will take the form of a nine-roomed building, erected 200 yards from the homestead, and equipped with central heating, electric light, special ventilation, and every modern hygienic appliance. Two nurses and two guardians are being appointed to watch over the little girls day and night. It is estimated that the nursery will cost $5,000.

A Busy Year

In his report for the year 1933, the National Commissioner of the Canadian Red Cross points with satisfaction to the fact that, despite necessary curtailments in the budget, there has been a marked increase in almost every branch of the Society's activities. The operation of the Outpost Hospitals is a notable example: 24,205 persons received nursing care last year (i. e. 1,424 more than the previous year), while the expenses were $25,000 less than in 1932. Among the cases dealt with were 1,436 confinements. This means that a baby was born under Red Cross auspices every six hours.

Similarly, there was a reduction of two per cent. in the expenditures on Junior Red Cross organization, though the number of active Junior members was increased by seventeen per cent. The following passage from the report will certainly find an echo in the hearts of the majority of Junior Red Cross leaders in other countries:

> "It might be fitting that this review should emphasize the great benefits gained through the Junior Red Cross, than which there is no other movement that so completely fulfils the ideals of the Red Cross peacetime programme of improving health, preventing disease and mitigating suffering. Considering what the Junior Red Cross accomplishes towards these purposes, the expenditures are not only more than justified but one may also say that THEY PRODUCE, DOLLAR FOR DOLLAR, MORE CONSTRUCTIVE VALUE THAN ANY OTHER RED CROSS DISBURSEMENT."

There was a gratifying increase in the number of Home Nursing Classes last year. Altogether 159 classes were held and 2,984 pupils completed the courses. The year before there were only 99 classes and 1,880 pupils. The Visiting Housekeeper Service, which was begun in Toronto in 1925, has continued to prove of great value in those cities where it has been established. Last year, 75 Nutrition Classes were organized in connexion with this service, and about 3,000 women and girls were given valuable instruction in devising nourishing and palatable diets at small cost.

Some two thousand women and children landing in Canada passed through the Red Cross Seaport Nursery at Halifax last year, but this activity is gradually declining owing to new arrangements made by the Department of Immigration for the reception and care of immigrants.

The work of the Canadian Red Cross on behalf of unemployed men has been described in a previous issue of the BULLETIN, but, for the benefit of those whose attention it may have escaped, we will repeat the salient points. Acting as the agent of the local government bodies for the administration of relief to victims of the crisis, the Canadian Red Cross is operating hostels and other forms of accommodation for single, unemployed men, where, in the course of 1933, nearly 750,000 meals and 300,000 nights' lodging were provided. In addition to this, Red Cross branches supplied extra nourishment for children and invalids, and organized distributions of garments to the needy.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

A Year of Junior Work

The outstanding feature of the school year 1933-34 was the increasing interest manifested by secondary schools in Junior Red Cross activity. Courses in First Aid and Home Nursing were arranged, subscriptions taken out for the American and Yugoslav Junior Red Cross magazines, and inter-school correspondence carried on. Many secondary schools act as patrons of needy schools in mountain districts.

A relief fund of 54,602 crowns was raised by the Juniors to help children orphaned by the Nelson mine disaster at Osek some months ago. Nearly a quarter of that sum has been expended on providing dental care, and the balance is being utilized for sending the children to holiday camps. In addition, gifts of clothing and toys were sent to the orphans by Juniors in all parts of the Republic.

Last year, 690 pairs of boots and shoes were distributed to needy children as well as large quantities of fruit and Christmas gifts, purchased with the proceeds from the sale of the Junior Red Cross diary and calendar.

DANZIG

Nomination of New Secretary-General

The Danzig Red Cross has notified the League of the resignation of Dr. Ferber as Secretary-General of the Society. Senator Dr. Böttcher has been appointed in his stead.

FRANCE

Child Welfare Centre

The report for the year 1933 of the child welfare centre maintained at Mulhausen (Alsatia) by the U.F.F. (French Red Cross) shows considerable progress over the previous year. The ante-natal consultation was attended by 622 expectant mothers, as against 596 in 1932, while the doctor attached to this service made 825 examinations—an increase of 130 over the preceding year. The five district nurses paid 10,527 visits to rural homes, and the monthly consultations were attended by 2,985 children. Of the 1,315 births registered at Mulhausen in 1933, no fewer than 1,132 were visited by the Red Cross nurses. There are now five nurses and five consulting physicians attached to the centre.

Fifteen student nurses took diplomas last year at the Red Cross nursing course organized by the Mulhausen branch of the U.F.F.

GREAT BRITAIN

Training Course for Officers

A training week for Red Cross officers will be held at the headquarters of the British Red Cross Society in London from November 7th to 13th next. Courses of instruction will be arranged in Chemical Warfare, Infant and Child Welfare, and How to Teach. Each course will be followed by an examination.

HUNGARY

Invalid Children Form Junior Groups

The Junior Red Cross has found its way into a sanatorium for tuberculous children at Budakesz (Hungary), thanks to the kindly initiative of the Assistant Medical Director. For a long time she had been searching for some means of keeping the young patients usefully occupied. At last she thought of the Junior Red Cross. When the objects of the movement were explained to the children, they hailed the idea with enthusiasm. To foster the spirit of emulation, several different groups of ten (called "families") were formed, each under a leader elected by the members themselves.

Each "family" has a distinctive emblem. Discipline is maintained through good and bad marks, and entertaining programmes are arranged every Saturday. An entrance fee was charged for the first of these entertainments, and the proceeds sent to Junior Red Cross headquarters to be expended on tooth-brushes for poor children. The outdoor activities of the "families" include the laying out of a flower garden in the grounds of the sanatorium. Exhibitions of the members' work—designs, paintings, handiwork, toys, etc.—are arranged from time to time, and the Juniors have announced their intention of preparing portfolios for inter-school correspondence.

INDIA

Indian Juniors at Work

A few months ago, a Junior Red Cross group in a high school at Eminabad Town (Punjab) organized a Cleanliness Campaign, which was carried out in a very methodical manner. The town was divided up into sectors and a team of Juniors assigned to each. The first day was spent by the Juniors in making a sanitary survey of the whole town, and in distributing tooth sticks to the public. Woe betide any child who ventured into the street that day with a dirty face, for he was promptly submitted to a treatment of soap and water! The following day, the younger Juniors marched in procession through the streets and bazaars singing songs in praise of health and cleanliness, while the older children helped the municipal employees to clear the town of rubbish.

The members of a Junior group at Khanda Kheir brought under control an outbreak of fire in their village, their prompt action being the means of saving many houses from destruction.

Another group at Jakhali has a remarkable record of achievement. During the last school year, the members of the group destroyed 40,000 sugar-cane parasites, thereby saving the crop, and participated in the Safety First campaign organized by the Punjab Boy Scouts Association. When floods occurred recently, they helped in the removal of property from flooded houses, saved several children from drowning, and co-operated with the public health authorities in combating the effects of the malaria epidemic that followed the floods. They also assisted the authorities in flood relief work and helped to feed the victims.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

Membership Campaigns

In a public proclamation issued last May by the Governor-General of the Philippines, it was announced that the annual Red Cross membership drive would henceforth be held in July, from the 4th to the 31st. In previous years it has been held concurrently with the American Red Cross Roll Call, viz., from Armistice Day to Thanksgiving Day, but experience has shown that this is the most unpropitious period of the year for such an object in the Philippines. Nearly all the great disasters requiring the intervention of the Red Cross have occurred during the months of September, October and November, while the Society's extensive health activities in the schools reach their maximum of intensity just at that time.

In announcing this decision the Governor-General made a stirring appeal for public support of the Red Cross whose task is daily becoming more urgent and more onerous as a consequence of the prevailing economic difficulties.

The July, 1934, issue of ''The Health Messenger'' (the official organ of the Philippine Bureau of Health) was devoted almost entirely to propaganda on behalf of the Red Cross.

SALVADOR

First Aid on Highways

The Salvadorian Red Cross is proposing to equip all the principal highways of the Republic with first-aid posts. A start has been made with the roads leading from the capital to Ilopango and to La Libertad respectively. This initiative is particularly interesting in view of the laying of the new inter-American highway described in the last issue of the Bulletin.

SIAM

First Aid during Riots

The civil disturbances in Siam last October saw the Red Cross fulfilling its traditional mission of caring for the injured whether they belonged to the Government forces or to the rebels. A first-aid station was set up at Bangkhen, where the fighting was fiercest, and medical aid, food and clothing were provided. Assistance was also given in transporting the wounded from the scene of the fighting to hospital. This service cost the Society no less than 12,746 bahts.

SWITZERLAND

Historical Fête for Red Cross

On September 18th, 22nd and 23rd, the period (a century old) when Mme de Staël entertained such celebrities as Mme Récamier, Chateaubriand, Benjamin Constant and Lamartine, in her country house overlooking the Lake of Geneva, was reconstructed in the historic setting of the library of Cooppet Castle, which has been preserved intact since Mme de Staël's day. After the performance a fee of one Swiss franc was charged for admission to an old-time cabaret in the castle grounds, the proceeds being turned over to the Geneva branch of the Swiss Red Cross.

Active Section at Geneva

It is perhaps appropriate that Geneva—the cradle of the Red Cross movement—should be the home of one of the most active sections of the Swiss Red Cross. For a town of 135,000 inhabitants, an expenditure on Red Cross services in one year of over 53,000 Swiss francs seems to indicate a healthy degree of activity, and the report of the Genevese Section for the year 1933 bears out this impression.

The public health dispensary absorbed the lion's share of this expenditure. The doctor and ten nurses attached to the centre treated and followed up 3,400 cases during the period under review, and the nurses paid 22,000 visits to patients in their homes. Besides this a vigorous child welfare campaign was waged in the rural areas of the canton, and relief was extended to the families of the unemployed. One of the nurses is responsible for social service work at the Cantonal Hospital, while another has instituted a similar service at the General Hospice.

During the same period some 2,400 consultations were given at the anti-venereal dispensaries. The Supply Commission granted loans of bedding to dormitories for the unemployed, and wheel chairs for cripples, while the Sewing Commission turned out hundreds of garments for invalid soldiers, for persons attending the Dispensary, for the families of the unemployed, and for the victims of catastrophes in other parts of Switzerland.

UNITED STATES

Disaster Relief in Kentucky

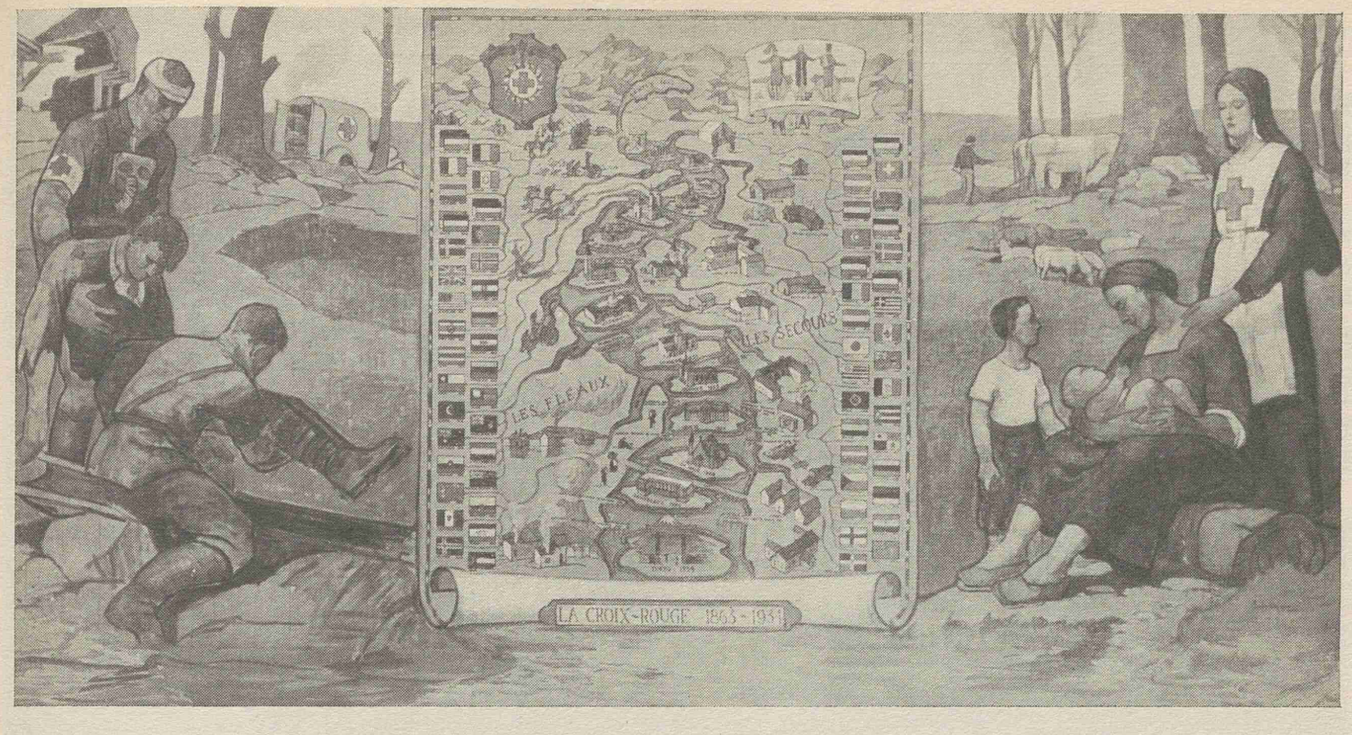
Red Cross relief is being extended to 2,300 families who lost their homes and possessions as the result of a cloud-burst which devastated three counties of Kentucky on August 10th last. Within a few hours of the disaster, two relief experts were on their way from Red Cross headquarters to the scene of the floods, where they aided the local Chapters in providing food and shelter for the victims, and in rehabilitating families unable to provide for themselves. The most crying needs of the stricken inhabitants, after food and shelter, were for household goods, clothing, bedding, repairs to buildings, and seeds to replace crops washed away, and all these are being met by the Red Cross.

Instruction in Food Conservation

With food conservation a looming problem in many communities and malnutrition among children a widespread threat, American Red Cross Chapters are being encouraged to make greater use of volunteer nutrition instructors. There are 240 such volunteers—for the most part teachers of home economics— working under the direction of 76 Red Cross Chapters, and thirteen nutritionists are serving on a paid basis. During the last fiscal year, 7,178 persons attended 346 Red Cross classes in food conservation and nutrition.

Red Cross Nurses Fight Epidemic

Red Cross nurses and members of the official health services have been working together to check an epidemic of malignant malaria (commonly known as black-water fever) which broke out in North Carolina last July. Latest reports indicate that the epidemic is now under control.



SIDELIGHTS ON THE TOKYO CONFERENCE

Exhibits and Manifestations

When this number of the Bulletin appears in print, the opening of the XVth International Red Cross Conference will be only a few days distant.

Of the actual preparations for that meeting, and for the session of the Board of Governors of the League which will be held concurrently therewith, little remains to be said; readers have been kept informed, month by month, of all new developments in this connexion, as well as of the receptions and excursions arranged by the Japanese Red Cross for the delegates as a diversion from the labours of the Conference.

For want of space, certain subsidiary manifestations organized as side-issues of the Tokyo Conference have been relegated to a secondary place in the Bulletin and may have escaped the notice of many of those now on their way to Japan. By the time this number of our publication has crossed the ocean, they will have seen for themselves the Junior Red Cross exhibition, the ceremony in the botanical garden of the Osaka Red Cross Hospital, and the canvases sent by the League Secretariat to illustrate the history and activity of the Red Cross. The present account, however, is intended primarily for those who have not had the good fortune to be able to attend the Conference personally and who must perforce content themselves with following events in Tokyo vicariously.

The important place accorded by the organizers of the Conference to matters relating to the Junior Red Cross is easily explained when one considers that nearly two million children in Japan are enrolled under the Red Cross banner and are exerting a powerful and salutary influence on the life of the nation in a host of ways.

When the Japanese Red Cross proposed the organization at Tokyo, during the XVth Conference, of an international exhibition of Junior Red Cross work, the League Secretariat immediately acquainted the Junior sections of its member Societies with this project and solicited their views. The idea was hailed with enthusiasm, and exhibits came pouring in from all sides. Delegates to Tokyo will therefore have the opportunity of seeing an almost unique collection of material illustrating the activities of the Junior Red Cross in all parts of the world. Each national group has endeavoured, through the medium of inter-school correspondence albums and specimens of handiwork, to give a composite picture of the characteristics and customs of its country, its folk-lore, etc.

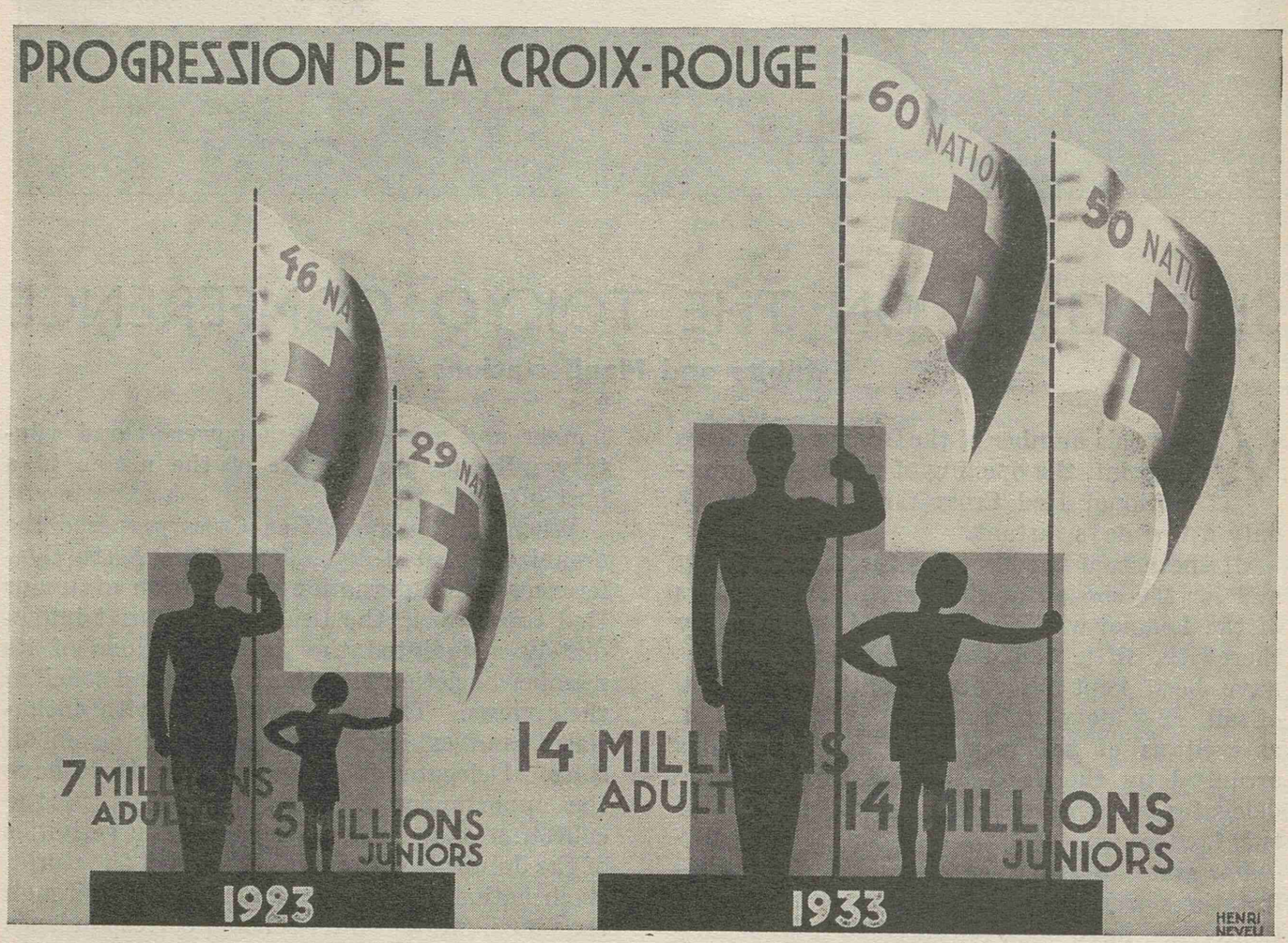
The manifestation in Osaka also will have the Junior Red Cross as its central theme. The Osaka Hospital, which is one of the principal Japanese Red Cross establishments, has recently undergone complete transformation and has now been endowed with a spacious park for the use of convalescent patients. Professor Mayeda, the Director of the Hospital, conceived the idea of turning this park into a botanical garden representing the flora of all countries. His suggestion, communicated to the national Junior sections by the League Secretariat, met with a hearty response and specimens of seedlings and young plants characteristic of eighteen countries are now on their way to Japan and will be formally presented to the Juniors of Japan in the course of a

special ceremony at Osaka, to which the delegates present at the Tokyo Conference have been cordially invited.

Finally, the League has had prepared a series of nine canvases depicting the evolution of the Red Cross movement in the course of the last decade, and some of the more typical peacetime activities of the national Societies. These will be exhibited at Tokyo during the Conference, and will serve to give Red Cross leaders and representatives of States signatory to the Geneva Conventions a graphic portrayal of what the Red Cross is doing today. The exhibit consists of a large centre piece around which are grouped the eight smaller canvases.

The execution of the main picture, entitled THE RED CROSS 1863-1934, was entrusted to Mr. R. Stevens Wright, a young American artist resident in Paris, who has already achieved a certain degree of celebrity as an etcher, both in France and in his native land. The composition falls into three panels, those on the left and right showing scenes and figures typifying the activities of the Red Cross in war and in peace. The central panel, which is in the form of a mediæval map, shows a river, symbolizing the Red Cross movement, rising in Geneva in 1863 and growing gradually broader through the succeeding years as it gathers strength from the continuous development in the number and activity of the national Societies. Islands in the river mark the dates of the fifteen International Red Cross Conferences held during the past seventy years, while the varying causes of the suffering which Red Cross action aims to alleviate, together with methods by which this suffering is relieved, are indicated by appropriate signs.

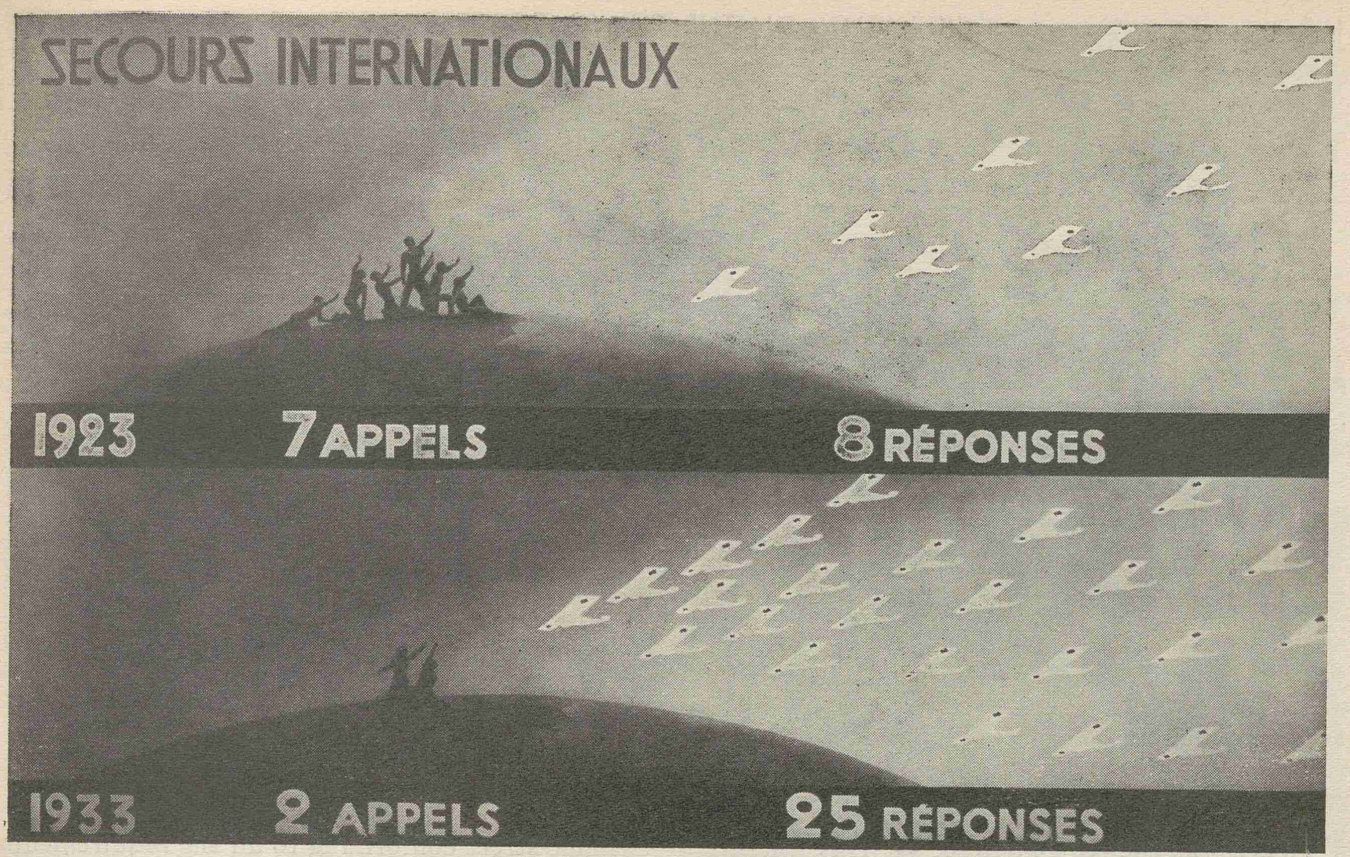
The author of the eight smaller canvases, M. Henri Neveu, is a French landscape painter whose talent has been widely recognized by Parisian critics. A description of his pictures is given below.



Some of the more striking of them are reproduced herewith.

World Progress of the Red Cross Movement. — This panel shows that, during the last ten years, adult and Junior membership in the Red Cross has doubled, while the number of officially recognized national Societies has grown from 46 to 60. There are now fourteen million adults and fourteen million Juniors enrolled in the Red Cross, and the Junior Red Cross is organized in 50 countries as against 29 a decade ago.

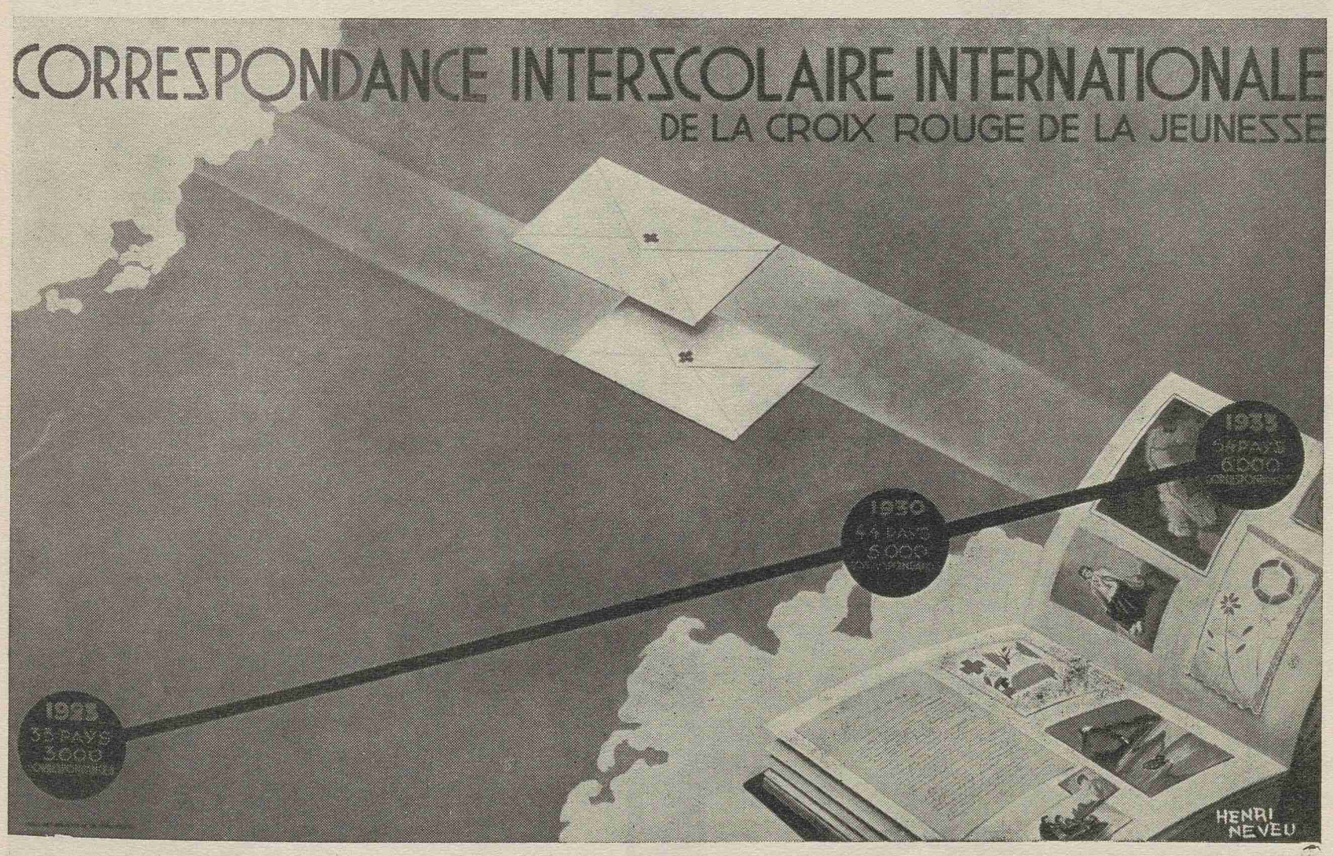
Health Training for Boys and Girls. — Two children are seen mounting a flight of steps leading to the rising sun of health. Engraved on a stone column is a list of Junior Red Cross health activities.



International Disaster Relief. — Thanks to the improvements effected in the disaster relief organization of national Red Cross Societies, each Society is today better able to deal with disasters occurring on its national territory. On the other hand, when outside help is necessary, an increasing number of Societies respond to the appeals launched by the international Red Cross bodies. The artist has portrayed in striking imagery the change which has come about in this respect during the past ten years.

International School Correspondence. — Two letters crossing the ocean symbolize the inter-school correspondence carried on by Junior Red Cross groups the world over. The figures inset show that the volume of this correspondence has doubled over a period of ten years.

Junior Red Cross Magazines. — A decorative design made from the cover pages of the thirty-six Junior Red Cross magazines published in different countries for the pupils of primary and secondary schools.



Relief for the Unemployed. — This picture shows how the Red Cross is helping to meet four of the principal needs of the unemployed: food, clothing, shelter and recreation.

Health and the Red Cross. — The artist shows a series of fragmentary scenes portraying: patients under treatment in tuberculosis and orthopædic dispensaries; a consultation in a clinic; health work for merchant seamen; a village street conforming to all the requirements of rural hygiene; spectators assembled to watch popular health films.

The Red Cross Nurse. — The panel shows, as background to the symbolical figure of a Red Cross nurse: a class of student nurses — a public health nurse making a home visit — a bedside nurse with her patient — and a nurse giving first aid before an emergency tent hospital.

SERVICES HOSPITALIERS
INFIRMIÈRES ET AUXILIAIRES VOLONTAIRES DANS LES CALAMITÉS
FORMATION DES INFIRMIÈRES ET DES AUXILIAIRES VOLONTAIRES
INFIRMIÈRES VISITEUSES
HENRI NEVEU

HOW JUNIORS PROMOTE RURAL HYGIENE IN YUGOSLAVIA

By Professor BOZIDAR ZECEVIC

Director of the Yugoslav Junior Red Cross

THE activities of the Junior Red Cross in favour of health in rural communities were inaugurated in Yugoslavia at a singularly appropriate time. Conditions in the villages at the end of the Great War were nothing short of calamitous: the houses were in the last stages of decay and neglect, school buildings were deplorably lacking in space and hygiene, living conditions were appalling, and sanitation was practically non-existent. Energetic action was called for and teachers, pupils, and charitable organizations joined forces in a common effort to bring about the necessary reforms.

Such was the state of affairs when the Junior Red Cross was introduced into Yugoslavia. The new organization lost no time in setting up machinery to carry out its programme for the improvement of health and social welfare.

To give some idea of the conditions under which this work was launched, it should be explained that eighty per cent. of the inhabitants of Yugoslavia are peasants, that many villages are practically cut off from contact with the outside world through lack of railways and other means of communication, and that the inhabitants are often ignorant of even the most elementary principles of healthy living.

The Junior Red Cross programme provides that personal hygiene and public health shall be carried into practice within the framework of the school through the medium of Junior groups. In many villages these groups have assumed the character of veritable propaganda centres; the children become accustomed to observing health rules in the school and then spread their knowledge among their relatives and fellow-villagers.

Perhaps the most far-reaching of all the activities initiated by the Junior Red Cross in Yugoslavia is the establishment of school canteens in rural areas. While it is true that such canteens existed in certain towns before the advent of the Junior Red Cross, it cannot be denied that the credit for having generalized them throughout the country belongs to that organization.

The dietary of our peasants, alas, is anything but hygienic or rational. Children who have to come some distance to school bring with them for their mid-day meal a crust of dry bread and a few onions, or, in the case of the privileged few, a piece of cheese or a slice of smoked meat. Their food at home is little better, and faulty nutrition impairs their health, retards their development, and makes it difficult for them to learn their lessons.

In isolated regions, the peasant women are blissfully ignorant of anything pertaining to domestic economy; they have no idea how to prepare substantial and nourishing meals, even when the necessary ingredients are at hand. Furthermore, their notions of hygiene are of the very haziest.

Courses in hygiene and domestic economy are organized in several villages by State institutions and private agencies, but it is impossible to establish them everywhere. This is where the Junior Red Cross school canteens are serving a double purpose, viz., in providing nourishing food to the pupils, and in enabling the older girls to learn how to prepare wholesome, appetizing meals in an economical and hygienic manner. In certain villages, the womenfolk of the pupils offer their services as volunteers in the school canteens and contribute towards their upkeep. Realizing the immense services which these canteens are rendering to the community at large, the educational authorities and teachers encourage them in every possible way.

The admirable team spirit shown by all concerned is revealed in the following letter from a primary school inspector:

> "Two women teachers supervise the work of the school canteen. The older pupils prepare the meals and ensure order and cleanliness. The Juniors contribute towards the upkeep of the canteen, and organize amateur theatricals as a means of raising funds for this purpose. The villagers also take their share in keeping the canteen going by donating foodstuffs. The aim of the canteens is not limited to providing the children with strengthening meals; they are designed also to give girls a sound training in domestic hygiene and economy so as to fit them for their future rôle as housewives".

At the outset, school canteens were regarded as purely philanthropic institutions the object of which was to supply children with food in time of public disaster. This conception was soon modified as it was seen how much influence they were exercizing on health and social education. They are on the way to becoming a permanent institution, and their number is continually growing. During the school year 1933-34, nearly 700 canteens were established in different parts of the country, and 40,000 children were fed in them.

The Committee of the Yugoslav Red Cross has undertaken to construct shelters to house the school canteens, and offers pecuniary

aid to Junior groups desiring to organize canteens, on condition that the Juniors themselves contribute from their own funds towards the project. Valuable assistance has also been received from the American Red Cross which has accorded grants from the National Children's Fund for this purpose.

Thanks to the joint efforts of Juniors, teachers, parents and other villagers, it has been possible to institute canteens, baths, fountains and wells, in many different parts of the country. The Central Committee also recommends the planting of kitchen gardens in which Juniors can grow vegetables for use in the canteens and, at the same time, show the peasants the most rational methods of cultivating vegetables for human consumption.

The canteens are not the only means utilized by the Junior Red Cross for inculcating in the children of Yugoslavia the rules of hygiene. There is also the "Health Game", which is played assiduously in almost all the schools of the Kingdom, all the year round.

But the Game cannot be played without water, and this raises another problem of rural life in Yugoslavia. In many places —even in quite important centres—the inhabitants are compelled to go long distances to fetch water for their needs. To remedy this situation, our Junior Red Cross has, for some years past, been encouraging the installation of water pipes, wells and pumps in schools by making grants to Junior groups and converting to this purpose a grant received from the National Children's Fund of the American Red Cross.

The initiative of the Juniors in providing rural dwellers with water is proving a powerful factor in the development of rural hygiene; at the same time it has awakened a feeling of social responsibility in the children by giving them an opportunity to contribute towards the well-being of the community. It should be mentioned that, in the execution of this work, they received the whole-hearted collaboration of the villagers, many of whom provided material and voluntary labour.

The headmaster of a primary school recently wrote:

> In view of the defective hygienic conditions in the country areas and of their deplorable effect on the children's health, I have been concentrating all my efforts on one aim, viz., to erect a building for school baths and provide drinking water for the pupils.

One particularly active group at Chachak has contrived to set up a school canteen and a bath-house, and is now engaged in plans for the erection of a permanent Junior Red Cross preventorium in the mountains. Many of the groups have installed wash-basins and purchased hair-clippers, soap, disinfectants, spittoons, door-mats and other accessories for the practice of health and hygiene.

Medicine chests have been supplied in many schools, but the contents may be used only under the supervision of the schoolmaster, the nurse or of those Juniors who have taken the Samaritan course. These chests serve the double purpose of providing first aid in case of accidents and instructing the pupils in practical methods of disinfection. This knowledge the Juniors transmit to their parents, with the result that the school pharmacy is frequently made use of by adults.

Health propaganda is carried out through the organization by the Junior Red Cross, in town and village schools, of health lectures, practical demonstrations and parent's meetings, the object of which is to give children and adults an elementary knowledge of diseases and how to avoid them.

The Junior Red Cross magazine is invaluable as a medium for conveying necessary information to children in an attractive manner. The section entitled "The Junior Red Cross in Other Lands" is edited with particular care to give a general idea of foreign Junior activities. The circulation of the magazine is 22,000 copies a month. It is sent to all Junior groups, and there are several paying subscribers. It penetrates to the furthermost recesses of the country, carrying its message of health, and popularizing the elementary principles of personal and collective hygiene.

Another excellent form of propaganda is constituted by the pamphlets and posters published in large quantities by the Central Committee and distributed free of charge to all the schools of the country.

Collaboration with other organizations engaged in the protection of public health — and more especially with the League against Tuberculosis—awakens in the Juniors and in their parents a realization of the social significance of the campaign against disease.

The theatrical library at Junior Red Cross headquarters keeps groups supplied with health plays which, besides being entertaining, are genuinely instructive. Played by Junior members of the Red Cross, they represent an excellent means of introducing health principles to the public.

If the Committee of the Yugoslav Junior Red Cross is concentrating its major efforts on the promotion of hygiene, it is because it realizes that the other objects of its programme will be more easily attained if the health of the children is protected so that they may grow into useful citizens, sound in mind and body. By training the young in healthy habits, the Junior Red Cross is enabling them to share in a civic activity the results of which are already becoming manifest in the improved conditions of rural life in the areas where the Junior Red Cross is actively working.

THE NURSE IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Excerpts from a Report

By MARTA SINDLEROVA

Superintendent of the Organization of Mothers and Babies in Bohemia

CONTRARY to what has been observed in many other countries, the development of nursing in Czechoslovakia did not keep pace with the progress of medicine. Hospitals and institutions were established with little or no regard to nursing.

As early as the tenth century, a primitive form of hospital was founded in Prague. The site on which the famous Tyn Church now stands was once a market place, and the inn which sheltered the merchants and their horses may still be seen. This inn was eventually transformed into a rest house for merchants who, through fatigue or illness, were unable to continue on their way. There they could remain until they had recovered.

The year 1233 saw the establishment of the first convent caring for sick and destitute persons.

Of the sixteenth century, the least that can be said is that arrangements for tending the sick left much to be desired. It was no unusual sight, in the Prague of those days, to find sick persons abandoned to their fate on the road-side. To check this inhuman practice, the Mayor of Prague had a rough shelter built for the accommodation of such cases. Later, during the plague epidemics, it became necessary to build more of these shelters, where the patients were lodged and fed but were given no medical care.

A century later, several hospitals were installed in convents and monasteries by the Emperor Joseph II. Two of these hospitals are still to be seen in Prague, and their thick walls, spacious wards and high narrow windows are characteristic of the epoch.

Until 1916, the care of the sick was entrusted in part to nuns, deaconesses and nurses trained by the Red Cross, but, in the majority of cases, to attendants lacking any kind of training for the work. Only a few hospitals made sporadic attempts to organize short courses for their personnel, these consisting usually of a few theoretical lectures.

In the largest hospital of Prague, an establishment of 2,000 beds, the procedure was as follows: on admission, the probationer was assigned to such menial tasks as scrubbing floors, washing dishes, etc. After a few years of this, she was promoted to the dignity of ward-maid and eventually became a nurse, in which capacity her duties consisted merely of assisting the doctors, carrying out their instructions, and keeping the patients and wards clean and tidy.

The living conditions of the nurses were very poor, and salaries correspondingly low. A screened-off corner of the ward served as combined bed- and living room for the nurse. Here she slept, ate, and received her visitors. In these circumstances, it is hardly surprising that the nursing profession was eyed with disfavour by girls of good family. Nurses were looked down upon and had no place in society. True, there were a few good nurses among them who loved their work and threw themselves heart and soul into it, but they were too few and far between to exercise any real influence on the general standards of nursing. It was the nuns who founded the high moral traditions and ethics of the nursing profession in Czechoslovakia.

A few outstanding members of society, including medical men who had studied abroad, felt very keenly this handicap in modern institutional and bed-side care, and, in 1904, they formed a group known as the Committee for the Improvement of Nursing Standards. The secretary of this committee was a teacher, Fany Fajfrova, a woman with a broad outlook and a strong personality, who was destined later to become first matron of the State School of Nursing. Her opportunity came during the World War, when nurses were needed for the field hospitals and had to be trained in a minimum of time.

The courses were organized by the Red Cross with the aid of the Government, and a committee was appointed to establish the curriculum and arrange for practical training in the general hospital. These war nurses were, for the most part, intelligent and educated women of good family. When the war came to an end, many of them resumed their normal occupations, but some remained in the hospitals and continued their nursing training. This interlude, however, had little effect on the general conditions of nursing.

We in Czechoslovakia are still strongly under the influence of old-fashioned conceptions. Schools of nursing are to this day regarded as a luxury. The proof is that, during the last eighteen years, despite the efforts of the Red Cross and of our Alumnæ Association, only one new school for the training of nurses for civilian hospitals has been established in this country, and that was the new school for lay nurses founded in Slovakia in 1932. There are now three schools for lay nurses and four schools maintained by religious orders, making a total of seven for a country of fifteen million inhabitants.

The two other lay schools are the Czech school (founded by the Austro-Hungarian Government) and the German school in Prague,

attached to the general hospital, both established in 1916. The Czech School of Nursing went through three distinct stages of development. The first lasted from 1916 to 1920. The theoretical instruction was excellent, but there was no special training in nursing technique. The student groups were small (numbering from 11 to 20) so that the tuition was largely individual.

The second phase opened in 1920 when the school was taken over from the State by the Red Cross. Dr. Alice Masarykova, the Red Cross President, had a very clear conception of how a modern school of nursing should be organized. She called the attention of prominent people to the necessity of having well-educated, properly trained and experienced nurses at the head of the school if it was to achieve the high standards set by other countries. At that time, it was possible to get such leaders only from abroad. The Czechoslovak Red Cross therefore got into touch with the American Red Cross, which agreed to send four American nurses to Prague to re-organize the Czech School on the lines of similar establishments in the U. S. A. Meanwhile several Czech graduate nurses were sent abroad to learn modern methods of nursing administration in order to fit them to take charge of the school when the time came for the American nurses to return to their own land. To date, upwards of twenty nurses have taken this foreign training, and have been appointed to responsible positions, either in the schools of nursing or in the public health field.

The third stage of development started when the American nurses left Czechoslovakia and the direction of the school was entrusted to Miss Ruth Tobolarova, one of its first graduates, who had completed her training at St. Thomas' Hospital, London.

Before admission to the school, candidates are subjected to a thorough medical examination, followed by a general intelligence test. Preference is given to educated girls. At present, the minimum age requirement is 18 years.

The two years of training are divided into three periods : probationary, first year and second year. During the probationary term, which lasts four months, the students are kept under close observation by the matron and her assistants, who are thus able to form an opinion as to their aptitudes for the nursing profession. Training during this period consists of lectures, demonstrations and laboratory work. The lectures and demonstrations are given in the school class room in the hospital, and in the lecture halls and laboratories of the medical school.

The first and second years are largely devoted to practical work in the wards, clinics, out-patient department, and in public health and child welfare organizations. The Prague General Hospital, with its 2,000 beds, offers excellent scope for practical experience in all branches of nursing.

Students are charged a tuition fee of 3,000 crowns per annum, which includes board and lodging. A few full or part scholarships are accorded each year to girls revealing a marked vocation for the nursing profession, on the understanding that they will promise to work in a State institution for two to three years after taking their diploma. Scholarships are also provided by the Czechoslovak Red Cross for candidates undertaking to enter the service of the Red Cross after graduation.

The social and economic status of certificated nurses in public and private institutions was determined by State regulations of 1927. The salary scale is the same as that of junior clerks. Candidates for nursing positions must fulfil all the requirements laid down for civil servants, must be aged from 18 to 40 years, and possess the nursing diploma.

The commencing salary is 700 crowns per month, from which 245 crowns are deducted for board and lodging. An increment of 25 crowns per month is added every three years. The eight-hour day does not apply to the nursing profession; the working week varies from 36 to 80 hours, according to the institution.

Living conditions leave much to be desired, but, on the other hand, the Czechoslovak nurses enjoy certain privileges which compensate in a great measure for the disadvantages. Chief among these are the system of compulsory health insurance and the old age pension fund. The premiums, in both cases, are paid half by the employer and half by the employee, and are proportional to the salary received. In the event of illness, the insured person receives free medical care, and a daily sum nearly equivalent to her salary. The right to free medical treatment is extended to the dependants of the insured, and the insurance also covers burial expenses. In the case of the old age pension fund, all payments are reimbursed if or when the nurse marries.

A nursing service is not yet provided by the insurance authorities, but a plan for the organization of such a service was worked out some years ago by the Alumnæ Association and accepted in principle by the Committe on Health Insurance. Up the present, however, it has not been put into practice.

The need for public health work was very acutely felt after the War, and, as there was no school for public health nurses, short courses were instituted by the Ministry of Public Health and the Ministry of Social Welfare to meet the immediate needs in personnel. The American Red Cross and Lady Muriel Paget's Mission organized similar courses as part of

their work in Czechoslovakia. All these courses lasted from one to two months, and were considered as a temporary expedient; as such, they were subsequently abandoned, and public health work has since been taken over by social workers and nurses.

Bed-side care in the home is not included in the work of the public health nurse. Visiting nursing is an entirely independent activity and was established, as recently as 1927, by the Czechoslovak Red Cross with the financial aid of the Social Insurance Fund. The initial difficulties were soon overcome and, during the first six months, the nurses attached to the new service made 1,160 home visits and 357 visits to institutions. Since the conditions of our country do not permit of the maintenance of separate social welfare and public health services except in one or two of the large cities, the visiting nurse is obliged to combine the two functions and, in this dual capacity, is rendering incalculable service, especially in rural centres.

Midwifery has always been extensively practised in Czechoslovakia, and, four times out of five, confinements are attended by midwives alone, doctors being called only as a last resort. Before the War, courses for midwives were given in the State obstetrical hospitals in the large towns, and lasted five or six months. The general standard of culture among the pupils was usually very low. This system was re-organized in 1929 by the Ministry of Health, when the first State school for midwives came into being, with a course lasting one year. Applicants are required to possess a certain degree of education, and to pass an examination before receiving their diploma.

Our Alumnæ Association was founded in 1921 with nine members, for the purpose of raising the standards of the nursing profession in Czechoslovakia, increasing the number of schools, and improving the status of the nurse. It was later re-organized and came to be known as the National Association of Graduate Nurses of Czechoslovakia. The Association now has 400 members, and is affiliated to the International Council of Nurses.

While many of our efforts have been crowned with success, much yet remains to be done. Nursing in Czechoslovakia is still in the pioneer stage and we are under no illusions as to the difficulty of the task confronting us. Looking back over the past and comparing it with the present, however, we are cheered by the reflection that the machine is at last in motion and that nothing can now arrest the progress of nursing in Czechoslovakia.

BOOK REVIEWS

L'économie humaine par la médecine sociale, by Dr. René Sand. Editions Rieder, Paris, 1934.

In this, his latest work, Dr. Sand, studies the effects of social conditions on health, and the means by which social medicine—making use of the arms forged by modern progress—may promote better hygiene, eliminate harmful factors, and avoid the waste of human lives.

Drawing his own conclusions, the author gives us the benefit of a truly prodigious documentation; he comments with remarkable foresight upon the opinions of the highest authorities. In his introduction, he outlines the growth of social medicine from the first vague notions of passive hygiene to the active and constructive attitude of today. "Its proper sphere", he says, "is the mutual influence of social factors on physical and mental health, in other words, on human personality. Just as the dangers of life in the tropics have resulted in the evolution of colonial medicine, so the perils engendered by professional, economic and spiritual environment have produced social medicine".

Dr. Sand first examines the foundations on which social medicine is built, i.e. the facts provided by statistics, investigations, studies, reports of institutions and the observation of individual cases. Before discussing the manner in which health is divided among the different social classes, he gives a clear and synthetic account of longevity, mortality, morbidity and disablement among the world's population as a whole. He next considers the factors affecting human life : environment and heredity, hygienic, professional, domestic and economic factors, and unemployment, and he divides them into two categories—good and evil. He shows how social medicine should be developed if the former are to triumph over the latter. Finally, he analyzes the educational factors "which might exercize considerable influence on health through the formation of the character and personality of the child, through health, vocational training and domestic science, and through a more rational utilization of leisure".

The Seaman's Handbook for Shore Leave, compiled under the direction of Mrs. Henry Howard, President A. M. M. L. A., Fifth Edition. American Merchant Marine Library Association, 67, Wall Street, New York, N. Y. 1933.

This is one of the most useful manuals that Mrs. Henry Howard has ever issued for the benefit of the seaman. It deals with every port of importance in the world; and the seaman who accepts this manual as his guide will find when he comes to such a port as Bergen, for example, that he is directed not only to reliable hospitals, seamen's homes, a seaman's bank, a seaman's agency, etc. but also to respectable lawyers, doctors, and dentists. He is told where to find a reliable hospital and V. D. clinic, and laundries. He is even given information as to amusements, points of general interest and excursions. With such a guide, the youngest and most inexperienced of seamen can have no excuse for finding his way to the wrong place and person on coming to a new port.

LEAGUE HEADQUARTERS NOTES

Change of Address On October 1st, the offices of the League Secretariat were transferred to premises situated at the corner of the rue Newton and the Avenue d'Iéna, a few hundred yards from the Place de l'Etoile. All future communications should therefore be addressed as follows:

12, rue Newton, Paris (16e)

The telegraphic address is: LICROSS, PARIS, and the telephone numbers are: Kleber 84-05, 84-06, 84-07.

Departures for Tokyo Dr. René SAND, Technical Counsellor, and M. Georges MILSOM, Director of the Junior Red Cross Division, left Paris on September 5th for Tokyo, where they will attend the XVth International Red Cross Conference and the XIVth session of the Board of Governors of the League. On their way across America, they will visit some of the more important Chapters of the American Red Cross.

Mr. Shiro YAMANOUCHI, Vice-Chairman of the Board of Governors of the League and delegate of the Japanese Red Cross in Europe, left for Japan on September 10th by the Trans-Siberian Route.

Air Ambulance Meeting An informal conference of representatives of the International Aeronautical Federation, of the Standing Committee of International Air Ambulance Congresses and of the League of Red Cross Societies was held at the offices of the League Secretariat in Paris on September 21st, under the chairmanship of the Marquis de Lillers, Vice-Chairman of the Board of Governors of the League. The object of this meeting was to discuss the possibility of using private planes for the conveyance of sick and injured persons in time of peace.

The Marquis de Lillers is preparing a report, summarizing the results of the discussions, for the XIVth session of the Board of Governors of the League.

It is to be anticipated that the meeting will have far-reaching consequences by reason of the presence thereat of two such influential authorities as Prince Bibesco, President of the International Aeronautical Federation, and of Dr. Sillevaerts, Commissioner-General of the International Air Ambulance Congress to be held next year in Brussels.

THE LEAGUE OF RED CROSS SOCIETIES

Board of Governors

Chairman:

Hon. John Barton PAYNE, (American Red Cross).

Vice-Chairmen:

Col. P. DRAUDT, (German Red Cross).

Marquis de LILLERS, (French Red Cross).

Señor E. J. CONILL, (Cuban Red Cross).

Mr. S. YAMANOUCHI, (Japan Red Cross).

Secretary-General

Mr. Ernest J. SWIFT.

Exhibition Material The League's permanent Junior Red Cross exhibit has been enriched by the addition of six interschool correspondence albums, two from Bulgaria and four from Australia.

Both the Bulgarian albums are from schools in Sofia — the XIIIth Progymnasium and the First Girls' Lycée. Accompanying the latter album is a summary of the school's history, reading as follows:

"The First Girls' Lycée of Sofia existed before the liberation of Bulgaria from Turkish rule. In 1879 it became the first State Lycée in the country. The Junior Red Cross group was founded in 1921, and is one of the most active groups in Bulgaria. In the course of 13 years it has distinguished itself in the field of hygiene, service and international friendship. Its most noteworthy undertaking is the fund called 'A bed in the Red Cross hospital', inaugurated during the year 1927-28, and which today has 35,000 levas in hand. The members are devoted to the cause and full of enthusiasm for the progress of the Junior Red Cross."

The albums contain magnificent specimens of embroidery, attractive pen-and-ink designs, and pictures of Bulgarian life and landscapes.

The Australian albums formed part of an exhibition held in Melbourne last June, and come from the following schools:

BACK RIVER STATE SCHOOL, TASMANIA (a small circle of 18 members).

PRINCE HILL STATE SCHOOL 2695, MELBOURNE (a large mixed school).

"WARWICK" GIRLS' SCHOOL, MALVERN, MELBOURNE (a boarding school with 150 pupils).

"PENLEIGH" PRESBYTERIAN GIRLS' SCHOOL, Moonee Ponds, Melbourne (a large day school for girls).

Each album shows a remarkable degree of individuality and variety; the four combined give a very comprehensive picture of life in Australia — its industries, its flora and fauna, its history and its native inhabitants. Photographs, original drawings, samples of woods and wool, pressed flowers, needlework, accompanied by well-written descriptions, bring vividly to mind the setting in which these active Juniors carry on their Red Cross work. Three of the schools have already won awards in portfolio competitions, and are in correspondence with schools abroad.

Le Gérant : B. de Rougé. IMP. UNION, 13, RUE MÉCHAIN, PARIS.